

**Summary of Chicago Police Department
School Resource Officer Program Updates**
2019-2020 School Year

CPD has worked diligently in the past few months to ensure that these important program updates are implemented before the start of the next school year. Please note that as the program evolves, many of these elements are still subject to review by the Independent Monitor in the Consent Decree, as well as community input. Therefore, some of these elements may change for the 2020-2021 school year.

Selection of School Resource Officers

CPD has now created formal selection criteria for school resource officers, which were used to select school resources officers for the coming school year.

Based on feedback from community and other stakeholders, these criteria **require** that school resource officers **have an acceptable medical roll, disciplinary history and attendance record** and have received acceptable performance ratings.

Process of Selection:

CPD has also created a process whereby officers seeking selection to work as SROs will submit a written request to their district commander and a resume that includes any additional skills or experience for selection consideration, including but not limited to following factors:

- a minimum of three years of service;
- demonstrate a working knowledge of Department directives, juvenile laws, Chicago Public School Student Code of Conduct Manual;
- bilingual or trilingual;
- ability to work safely, effectively, and build positive relationships with students, parents, guardians, and school personnel;
- previous experience working with youth in a learning environment (e.g., coaching youth league or youth group leader);

Training for School Resource Officers:

All SROs and SRO supervisors will now receive specialized training developed by a national expert, which focuses heavily on best practices and strategies that create respectful and positive interactions with students.

SROs are also now provided the opportunity (and encouraged) to participate in a supplemental training course focused specifically on youth crisis intervention.

Assignment of School Resource Officer

District commanders in each district will ensure SROs and SRO supervisors are actively engaged in the school community while providing for the safety and security of CPS students, employees, guests and property.

Officers assigned as SROs:

- will participate in comprehensive and cooperative problem-solving processes, including engaging in proactive strategies to reduce crimes and combat emerging and chronic crime and disorder issues.
- respond to crimes and calls for service within Chicago Public Schools, school campuses, or adjacent Board of Education properties.
- may participate in extra-curricular activities, meetings with school administrators, and the school community after school hours, upon notification and approval of the district commander or designee.
- maintain a visible presence at their assignment while assisting in fostering a positive learning environment and engaging in positive interactions with students.

Responsibilities of School Resource Officer

As their primary responsibility School Resource Officer will respond to crimes, calls for service, and other law enforcement-related incidents within Chicago Public Schools, school campuses, or adjacent Board of Education properties.

SROs will:

- contact the Office of Emergency Management and Communications in all emergency situations to ensure proper notification and recording of the incident.
- when safe and feasible, attempt to minimize any disruption to the school's normal operations with any Department response.
- NOT engage in the administration of discipline or involve themselves in disciplinary or classroom disorder situations unless required to prevent criminal activity or to protect students, employees, guests, or property.